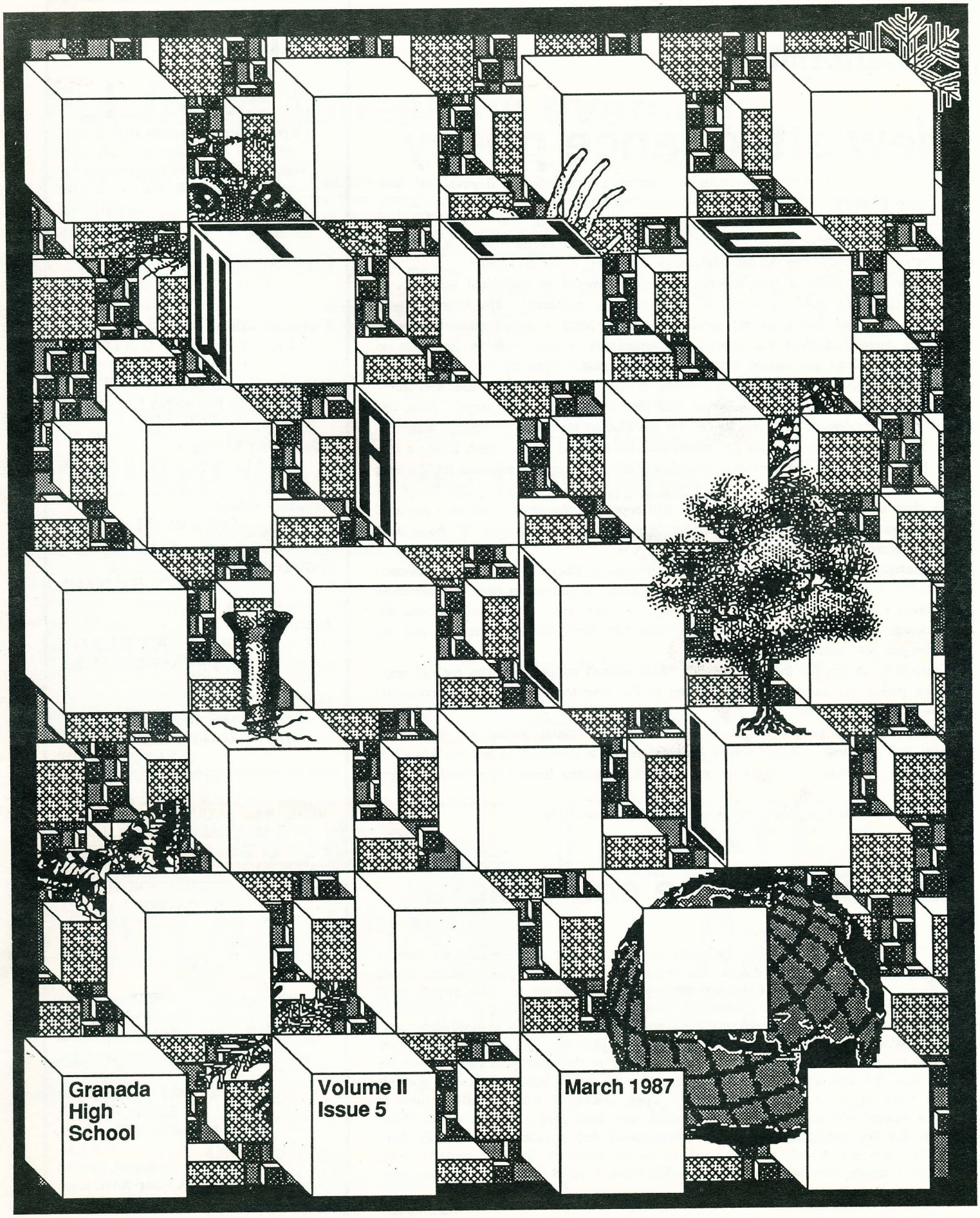

Granada High School

Volume II Issue 5

March 1987

Editorials

New attendance policy

Joey Hayek

According to assistant principal Sylvia Begtrup, the new attendance policy is proving to be a negative source looking to bring out a positive response.

For those of you who are unaware of the basic structure of the policy, it goes like this: three tardies count as one cut and five cuts gives you an "F" for the quarter.

This new policy raises a few important questions: Would an individual still have to attend the class after he/she gets an "F" for attendance problems? The interview with Mrs. Begtrup proved that a student would still be expected to attend class, even after he/she has already flunked the quarter for attendance reasons. It is important to remember that there are certain extents of an "F" grade, especially in a class where students are given a percentage grade. Going to that already flunked class, and doing the required work, would most likely get you into at least the 60% range. Now, the teacher is still required to give you an "F" for the quarter, then your percentage would be 59%. This percentage would then go toward your next quarter grade, which unlike a 0%, would help you to pass the semester, assuming you'd get your act together for the next quarter.

Any class dropped due to attendance will still appear on the report card as a grade of "F". The most important thing to remember here is *if* you receive an "F" because of attendance reasons, it is important to attend class.

Ms. Begtrup then addressed the issue of tardies. "Being on time is a common responsibility that everyone needs to learn." She said, "If you go to work and are tardy a few times a week, you'll probably be looking for a new job." Being tardy is rude and inconsiderate. Next time you walk into a class late, think of the distraction and the frustration you have caused.

There is a reason for the new policy: "Kids weren't cooperating with the old one." This new policy will be evaluated at the end of the semester. If we all don't cooperate this time, it could get worse.

A long time ago people fought to let kids go to school instead of working in factories and on farms. Some people thought that kids deserved to get an education. Now that the necessary learning tools are available, we take them for granted. Think about it...

As a final note, the new policy has decreased cutting considerably.

Mad rush for the counselors

Christina Moir

For the eight semester changes that I have been through at this school, every one has had the same problem: chaos. For a three week period during the semester switch, it is difficult doing anything in the counseling office other than pushing and shoving in order to see a counselor. Counselors are no longer in an abundantly sympathetic mood. Seniors needed to have their college applications in yesterday, but can't even get their counselor to look at it for a few days. After waiting in the initial line (which stretches out the door the first day) to see Wanda Amos for the tightly held appointment book, it takes a week or so to see the counselor. Upon making it into the office, there is always a student with the counselor who should have been gone 30 minutes ago. Then there are the two people waiting because they missed their appointments. Finally there is the third person who only says he needs to see the counselor for three seconds or so, which turns out to be about 10 minutes. We have a serious problem that has gone unsolved for a long time.

Continued on page 3

The Wall

is a publication of Granada High School 400 Wall Steet, Livermore, CA. Any comments, criticisms, compliments, etc. can be placed in Mr. Burg's box in the main office.

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The journalism class of Granada High wishes to express its sincere gratitude to the following for their generous contributions and support for our efforts:

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What was your first memory in life?

Deborah Hatcher, 12: Riding to the creek with the older kids and being left behind. I got spanked once for going and my sister got spanked ten times for not watching me. I laughed.

Terri Lee, 12: My first memory in life is a nightmare I had when I was two. Ernie and Bert were in it. Bert got a sunburn and turned orange. I woke up screaming.

Jennifer Allen, 9: When my brother smashed and locked my finger in the bathroom door.

Mr. Bortz, teacher: When I was very young my father had an old car which had a starter button on the dash. My first memory is of running the car into the side of a garage by pushing the button when I was three.

Jeffrey Ventura, 10: Taking a bath in the kitchen sink with my brother. He kept shoveling all the suds but I got the rubberducky!

Andrea Jacobs, 12: I was three years old. I remember my sister being brought home, only a few days old. After her first "big" diaper mess (stinky!) I wanted to send her back. She still stinks, but now it's from all the hairspray and perfume she drowns herself in.

Charlene Dorkin, 9: When I was about three my mom put my diapers and clothes on after my bath and went to get my shoes. I climbed back into the bathtub full of water.

Kirstin Bortz, 12: Going on a hiking trip with my dad and sister at a campground in Washington. I got really sick and the doctor at the camp told me to eat green bananas.

Susie Dart, 12: Having raisin fights in pre-school.

Laura Morgan, 12: I remember going to N.Y. at age three and telling my grandmother "I'm going to New York, Grandma, and I'm not even gonna miss you."

Krysta Stannard, 11: I remember my neighbor scaring my dog into a tree.

Blair Faulkner, 9: Jumping into a "pool" of fiberglass, then having to take a baking soda bath.

Lara Brown, 11: I got into the bread drawer and sat on the kitchen floor and ate some strawberry sweet rolls and made a mess of myself and my cat.

Nicole Miller, 12: Falling in the toilet.

Emily Oatney, 9: Playing "snow" with AJAX on the front room carpet.

Debbie Jones, 11: While my mom watered the garden I would water the house to make it grow.

Mrs. Hanavan, secretary: A blackout in San Francisco during World War II.

Stephanie Mikulasek, 11: L.A. smog - I didn't know the sky was supposed to be blue until I moved up north.

Continued from page two

Counselors . . .

Why can't we solve this problem? I've seen new forms, new lines and new procedures implemented that either help slightly, or add to the confusion. Nothing yet has solved the problem. This last semester, they tried to change many of the problems in student schedules before the previous semester ended. They also just started the system of signing up for two semesters at the same time. However, it only added to the strain. The head counselor, Mr. Knox said, "We were more disappointed this semester than ever before."

We, as a school, need to discover an effective, efficient way of solving this problem so that the counselors can do more in terms of guiding and helping us with college and career plans than just wading through the endless red tape of program changes.

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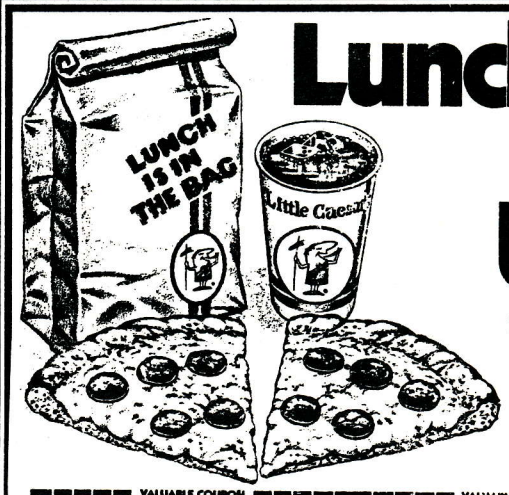

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How to become a Master Student

Sara Burkhardt

How are you going to get along in college? How are you going to cope with all that work? How are you going to survive the changes and how are you ever going to succeed?

I could continue asking questions like these but I have a better idea. I propose that you prepare yourself for college by taking a class that helps you become a Master student! This class is being offered by Amador Adult Education, takes 10 weeks, and costs $25. It is taught by Jackie Barnett, a counselor and instructor at the Livermore campus of Chabot College. High school seniors who plan to enter college this fall, college students, and adults who consider returning to college can learn everything here that leads to success.

The goals of this class include taking more accurate class notes, listening better and remembering more, being a good test taker, learning to set personal goals, reading more effectively, managing time, making smart decisions, selecting your college-major, and learning more about academic regulations and responsibilities.

According to Ms. Barnett the class will take a close look at what the students want to do and what their goals in education are. They'll be doing exercises that will help students to become more self-confident and self-aware. "It's going to be an adventure and interesting experience for everybody, we'll have a lot of fun because it's a positive and supportive kind of learning" she said.

The class takes place every Wednesday (March 25-June 3) from 3:30 to 5:30 at the Foothill High School Library. To register, get a form from the counseling office or call 846-2512 (Jackie Barnett) for more information.

Granada wins big at art awards

Kim Adams

Some of Granada's art students are using their talents to win prestigious awards in the Scholastic National Art Competition. The competition was tough with over 700 entries from northern California. Out of the five entries submitted by Granada's students, three were presented with outstanding honors.

All of the work entered in the contest had to be of original design; therefore copies from photos or other works of art were not accepted. The list of awards are as follows: Annette Oreglia's watercolor landscape received an honorable mention; Brian

Goehring's woven watercolor painting brought home a gold key award. The big winner from Granada was Loreé Hinton. Loree's ink drawing was presented with a National Award and is being sent to Washington D.C. for further judging.

the work of these students as well as other art students from Granada will be participating in more exhibitions and competitions. These include the South County High School Art Exhibition on May 6th through May 27th at Chabot College (Hayward Campus) and the Alemeda County School Art Competition sponsored by Hayward Area Festival of Arts from April 22nd to the 24th.

Medical Explorers: Back to the Suture

Jeff Schreiber

If you think that you want to be a doctor, or you want to know what it is really like in an emergency room, you can join the Medical Explorers, a unique group of students who share an interest in the medical sciences.

The purpose of the Medical Explorers is to expose high school students to the medical, health, and other related fields. Members can learn about specific careers in medicine through the group. The Explorers take trips to universities, such as Stanford and UC San Francisco Medical Centers, and local hospitals to see what happens and how things are done. Members of the group can talk with doctors and medical students to find out what it takes to be anything from a neurosurgeon to an acupunture specialist. Common activities include following doctors as they go from room to room checking on their patients and listening to and speaking with pharmacists, physicians, and respiratory care specialists at monthly meetings. People in the group can watch the birth of a baby, see doctors and nurses sew stitches, and watch the doctors in the emergency room operate on patients.

The Medical Explorers also do a lot of community work. They offer CPR and first aid classes, and do other community services for hospitals and health centers. They also help with Valley Memorial Hospital's "Fitness Fair" each year.

The Medical Explorers are sponsored by Valley Memorial Hospital. The meetings are held at 7 P.M. on the first Wednesday of each month in the ROP building (building C) at Valley Memorial. Anyone interested may attend one of the meetings, or call Larry Rozsnyai at 443-3447.

Trek among the stars without leaving earth

Dag Schield

Stardate 2203. You are Captain Kirk of the starship **Enterprise**. Sitting back in your black Star Fleet regulation stretch pants while the *Menagerie* plays softly in the background, you see before you a vast universe yet unexplored by mankind and a crew of perfect physiques who are at your will. Bones seems happy, but not content.

"Captain."

"Yes, Mr. Spock," you say as you notice his unusually long two foot ears.

"I believe it's 7:30."

. . . What? . . . Uh, oh God, no!! Ok, mom . . . It's just a dream, and . . . Granada. It's, jeez, Monday morning. Shucks.

You find yourself in twentieth century technology without a single whiff of hope of obtaining an anti-matter drive to change your fantasy into reality. But, instead of sitting around and twidding your thumbs, why not join the Tri-Valley Stargazers? The Tri-Vally Stargazers is a group of amateur astronomers who spend their time exploring heavenly bodies with the best tools within their means, which are usually telescopes. The universe they explore is the same as Captain Kirk's, but from a different perspective. It has much to offer in satisfying the average intergalactic lust. Its twice-a-month meetings include visual studies of constellations, lectures about various stellar phenomenon, and discussion about a myriad of other topics above and below the sun.

At every meeting slides and pictures from members of the club are shown. The pictures depict a universe outside our own unadulterated perception, a universe of color, death and rebirth, and violence overpowering any Steven Speilberg special effects show. The vice-president of the club, Jack Marling, is the usual donor of slides for the meetings and his pictures have been printed in the most esteemed astronomy magazines, including **Astronomy** and **Sky & Telescope**, a magazine which is readily available in Granada's library. In joining the club, each member is entitled to use Digger Pines, a private piece of land which is located about 30 miles down Mines Road. The area is pitch-black and perfect for watching stars developing, maturing, and exploding. The cost for a single membership is $15, $3 for students who are 18 and under, and $20 for a family. If you do not own a telescope but still wish to view the stars, there are several "Star Parties" up at Digger Pines where other members will gladly let you glance through their eyepieces and lenses. If you have your own scope, these "Star Parties" are perfect for showing it off and sharing information with other stargazing die-hards. If you stay in the club for over one year and there is space available, you can spend an extra $40 and become a Patron member. The title enables you to use the club's huge 18-inch scope perched atop Digger Pines.

The Tri-Valley Stargazers is, for the most part, attentive to the layman. The topics discussed at meetings can be understood by anyone, and they all provide an insight into the nature of our universe. Although the club boasts a big membership, the meetings are small and welcome anyone who wants to attend, whether a paid member or just a neophyte astronomer. So, if you are tired of waiting until 11 p.m. every night to watch Star Trek, why not go outside and look at the real worlds in our sky, or, better yet, join the club and learn about the universe. If you want more information on the club, you can write to it at the given address, call Livermore's telescope store, Lumicon, at 447-9570, and ask for Mr. Marling, or attend one of the meetings at the church off Vasco Road, about one mile north of 580, which are every third Friday of the month.

Tri-Valley Stargazers
PO Box 2476
Livermore, Ca 94550

Empathize with past adddicts at workshop

Jennifer Silveria

For those people who are concerned about the use and abuse of drugs by teenagers in the community, there is an organization called Teens Kick Off (TKO) which deals with chemically addicted teenagers in the Bay Area. It is a program which helps intervene and prevent teenagers from drug addiction.

TKO will be putting on a program which features several teenagers who are recovering from their addictions to chemicals. They will be performing dramatizations of their own personal experiences with drugs. These teens are given intensive training to write, rehearse and stage their dramatizations.

The play may be of interest to both non-addicted and maybe even those who are addicted to drugs. Also, during the evening of this performance a local group of teens will be speaking about their drug past and their recoveries

This all takes place on March 18 at 7:30 p.m., in the Amador High School Auditorium. The program is sponsored by *The Center* and the Phoenix Program; there is no admission fee, thanks to the donations from the cities of Dublin, Livermore, and Pleasanton.

Become a cabin leader at Redwood Glen and discover yourself

Karen Peters

Remember hiking through the woods, kissing banana slugs, and living with ten of your friends for a week? Yes, you're right if you guessed Redwood Glen (near Half Moon Bay). Do you remember your cabin leaders; those hip and happening people you idolized? Well, you have the chance to be an idol, or a role model and part-time babysitter for a week. The experience is worth missing classes for a week and having to make up all that homework. Only juniors and seniors can be cabin leaders, so for all you sophomores and juniors, attend the orientation meeting next December. Activities like this look great on your college records!

The week goes by very quickly. The kids are involved with something all of the time, either with their trail group and naturalist, or with their cabin. Activities include day and night hikes in the forest, a day trip to the beach, a square dance, and skits. The campfires are also a fun and major part of the learning process at Redwood Glen.

A cabin leader has to possess some personal qualities in order to survive the week and have fun doing it. Number one is patience. Dealing with all the giggling, homesickness, screaming and just plain old fifth graderness requires great emotional strength. However, those kids are also a bunch of fun. They ask all about you and look at you with adoring eyes when you say you can drive. They each take at least five pictures of their cabin leader and five of the bathroom, five of outside the cabin, *et cetera*. You are also expected to participate in all the activities, and be an example of appropriate craziness and seriousness. They look to the high school kids for ways to act, and the people who work there want us to participate and have fun. This volunteer job is full time, but free time is given once a day, either during the morning or afternoon sessions, and two nights out of the week. Cabin leaders have "meetings" after the kids go to bed which are otherwise known as partytime and relaxation. They can talk about their kids, take pictures and just act crazy without worrying about being a good example. The tendency to be on a power trip is strong, because these kids have to obey you. You sometimes have to be reminded that these kids are people; they are perhaps immature, but still people. They deserve respect and attention.

Redwood Glen is a valuable experience for everyone because you develop relationships with kids, naturalists, teachers, and nature. You come away from it with a new respect for the teaching profession, a new group of friends, a new tolerance of younger people, and a *big* sense of accomplishment. So, when the time comes around for sign-ups next year, and if you enjoy working with kids, please volunteer. You will never be able to legitimately miss school for a week like this again.

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Sheree Burnworth

PARKING CRUNCH AT GRANADA

Fifteen minutes before class and there is nowhere to park. Cars are parked vertically, horizontally, and ways that are totally illegal. The choice is yours, either be late to class or try to squeeze the car into a spot fit for a Hotwheel.

As the problem grows worse, the solutions grow scarce. Solutions *are* being sought, yet each holds its benefits as well as its drawbacks. Students have given some ideas to solve this problem, such as: *"Why not allow parking behind the gym? "*. "It's too dangerous," states principal Jose Mederios, "There is a blind spot when going around the 600 building, and if there were to be an emergency, help wouldn't be able to get through if students began parking behind the gym." *"Why not expand out towards the baseball fields?"* First of all, the fields are already too small. Secondly, money has been spent on a ball net, which stretches across the back fence to catch all balls which seem to reach the distance of two-hundred and seventy feet. To expand in that direction would leave us without a baseball field. *"Make more room in the staff parking lot."* The staff parking lot faces the same problem that student parking does: and if expanding the lot were to be made it would still remain for TEACHERS ONLY!

In talking with Mr. Mederios, he stated that in the past twelve years student parking has increased 200%. In 1975, students weren't allowed to park along any fence and yet there was enough room for everyone. On a normal day, one would not see more than 30 to 40 cars in the lot. Yet today the lot bulges with three times as many cars.

Plans for expansion have been held off because the administration felt with fewer kids, which we have this year, the problem would iron itself out. Yet the problem is due to the number of students getting new licenses and cars, which everyone seems to have done one.

Unfortunately, the problem has only gotten worse. During the summer of 1987 the GHS parking lot will be restriped. Compact cars will have clearly-marked, designated parking spots; this expansion will allow for 40 or so new parking spaces.

Meanwhile, the parking lot will continue to bulge at the seams, and the stories of how your parents walked to school twenty miles in the snow without a winter coat will be forever fresh in your mind. So in closing, I leave you with this one final message, laziness is not an excuse to drive to school when you live two blocks away!

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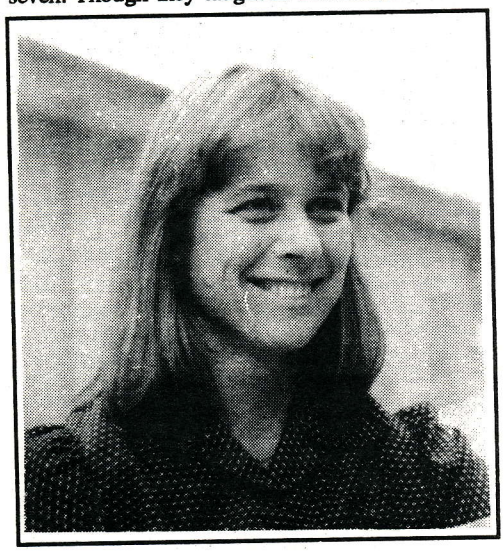
New Faces

New teachers at Granada

Every year, students at Granada High notice changes around the campus. Unless you are one of the lucky students to be in either Mrs. Lindl's or Mrs. Heyward's class, you may not have realized two of the schools newest improvements.

Both Mrs. Lindl and Mrs. Heyward came from San Ramon High, Mrs. Heyward has taught for eight years and Mrs. Lindl seven. Though they taught in San Ramon, both had lived in Livermore, which was the main reason for the moves. Mrs. Lindl



Ann Lindl, Economics

Kay Moore

is now teaching Economics to seniors and Mrs. Heyward teaches Geography and World History. The move to a new school was a scary change they said, but after the first week both felt "right at home." The other teachers in the social science department have been "really supportive and helpful," says Mrs. Lindl.

The move to Granada has basically been for the better; less hassle to get to school, and more time can now be spent at home with family. Both are married. Mrs. Lindl has two kids, five year old Katherine and three and a half year old Brittany. Mrs. Heyward has two also, Kelly, five and Heather one and a half. Mrs. Lindl says she enjoys backpacking and playing tennis but right now is concentrating on adding on to her house. Mrs. Heyward enjoys spending time with her family and swimming (she spent many years in high school and college with synchronized swimming).

Susan Heyward, social sciences

They have really enjoyed Granada and the differences between schools. They believe there are higher standards at Granada such as the dress code, cheating policy and the all-over expectations of students. "Things are more clear-cut for the students."

The fact is, Granada is a great school and they are proud to be a part of it.

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Mike Bendel

David Byrne is a man of many talents. Not only is he the lead singer and songwriter of the band *Talking Heads*, but he is also the director of their videos and the star, director and co-writer of the movie *True Stories*. While this may seem like a lot for most people, Byrne also composed the score to the movie along with scores to several other Broadway productions. It is very easy to see why David Byrne has been on the cover of *Time* and *Vanity Fair* and inside other magazines like *Horizon* and *Harper's*.

David Byrne formed *Talking Heads* along with three of his friends in 1975. Their first big hit came with "Psycho Killer" in 1976, and along with the song's success came the chance to tour Europe with the punk group *The Ramones* in 1977. This gave the group its first success on the road, albeit it wasn't in the United States, Byrne was happy with being popular anywhere. The Heads were still trying to break into the American music scene by being innovative when after jamming with Brian Eno, a rock producer and theorist, Byrne and his band came up with a sound that was different. ***Talking Heads'*** next album, *My Life in the Bush of Ghosts*, was a pop music breakthrough. A reporter for ***Time*** compared the Heads' new album to "trance music that was programmed for the ghetto blaster."

The band and I existed in a kind of middle ground, somewhat art, somewhat popular, so we ended up being caught in that whole phenomenon. -David Byrne

In October of last year, the movie *True Stories* was released, in which Byrne played the part of the narrator in the movie. In the movie, Byrne is driving through Texas when he runs across Virgil, Texas's "1836-1986: Celebration of Specialness." The movie features people and their eccentricities, set against the post card-like backdrop of the open plains of Texas. In the movie, Byrne tries to portray the "freaks" as normal people in hopes of showing that people similar to those who appear in tabloids like *The Weekly World News* and *The Star* are really just the same as everybody else. Hence the name *True Stories*. The movie has received only generally good reviews, but praise for Byrne's avant-garde directing debut is virtually unanimous.

What can society gain from the man whom *Rolling Stone* calls "the greatest musical genius in America?" Such knowledge as "the world is run by the student council in high school (always the one across town, of course)." Also, "Metal buildings are the dream that modern architects had at the beginning of the century come true, but they don't realize it." In a society where musical innovation is often considered electric hand-clapping or scratching records, David Byrne truly can be considered a rock and roll genius.

Of course, being inside myself, not having the perspective, I don't think I'm odd at all. I can see that what I'm doing is not exactly what everyone else is doing, but I don't think of it as strange. -David Byrne

The Beastie Boys invade *The Wall*

Drew Massey

Every major publication in America has printed at least one article about Rock's newest group of idiots, the Beastie Boys. Now it's our turn. In accordance with *The Wall's* ever progressive journalistic attitude, we will break away from the mainstream and simply say that the Beastie Boys are not the punk prodigies that the media have made them out to be. They have no talent for writing raps, as their constant repetition of the words "deuce" and "loose" readily displays. Has rhyming "funky," "junky," and "monkey" suddenly become a feat considered by the American public to be brilliantly creative? Does King Ad-Rock's voice annoy anyone but us?

Perhaps we are not being fair. Maybe we should note the Beastie Boys' extremely original idea of combining rap and hard rock (sorry, Aerosmith). Possibly we haven't mentioned the excellent beats that the Beastie Boys rap to; the background beats for which Rick Rubin, *not* the Beastie Boys, is responsible. And lastly, the Beastie Boys are really funny. They are funny because they are stupid, but they are funny nonetheless.

The management of Wolfgang's in San Francisco replaced its normal glass ash trays with metal ones right before a Beastie Boys concert, because in-stead of displaying talent, the Beastie Boys display rowdiness. As one fan aptly stated: "They ex-press themselves the way they know how best- by yelling into the micro-phone."

After having listened to "Licensed to Ill" about seven times, we concluded that the saxophone play-ing in "Brass Monkey" is really yucky, King Ad-Rock has the whiniest voice known to mankind, and that anyone who can become wildly successful playing a Casiotone while insulting a good third of the population has got to have either amazing psy-chokinetic powers, or God on his side.

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The tape player of tomorrow: The Califone

Matthew A. Fordahl

Late last year, a department which wishes to remain anonymous purchased five tape players at a cost of about $244.00 each. These machines are the sleek-looking Califones: apparently, the tape player of *demain, manana und morgen..* If it were not for the ever cautious eyes of the District Office, the machines would have cost $500.00 each.

This department has exposed its students to the $244.00 wonder of modern day audio technology. Some of the features which cause normal folk such as teachers to buy these superior machines are as follows. First, the colors make it easily visible and enjoyable to look at. The earth tone color would enhance the naturalness of any room, car or shoulder. Second, the protective cover keeps naughty gremlins such as the chalk fairy far away from the machine's sensitive parts. Third, the machine is literally indestructable. Reportedly, these machines have been dropped and attacked by the chalk fairy without being damaged.

Califone 3790XMBZMGS#54

Now presented are the technical aspects of this great machine. There is a super neat looking voltage meter mounted on the front in case you care. If you owned this marvelous piece of equipment, you could watch the voltage alternate. This about covers the technical aspects of the Califone. There are other features such as its supracushioned buttons and speaker (purposely not plural), but it is best not to discuss such confusing topics.

For those who think that the Califone will travel the same path as the video laser disc player, we compiled a list of components which could be made available for the Califone. There are at least five different ports for adding these great features. First, for those who cannot part with their 8-track cartridges, an 8-track adapter could be made available ($237?). In the second quarter of 1981, there might be an adapter for laser, scotch and masking tapes ($284?). Also available now are headphones, speakers and extra supracushioned buttons for those who like to depress when they are not around ($936?). The most exciting addition one could buy for this machine is a little box which allows the owners to play Atari Golf while listening to compact discs ($983,937.93?). What else can anyone ask for?

How much would you pay for this machine? $56,618.67? $25,643.62? Noooo. The basic Califone starter set can be purchased for only $500.00 or $244.00! Yes, you can get the Radio Shack sound for the Panasonic Surround Sound price!

If you want to see a Califone in action, meander towards the before mentioned department. They are especially proud of their treasures.

Mediocre Times at Granada High / Will Coleman

For those lonesome evenings . . .

Steve Baumann

Ever hear the saying "You can't buy your friends"? Well, now you can. A new videotape has been marketed by Career Dynamics, Ill. that just might be one of the most extreme examples of using the 'ole T.V. as a cure for loneliness. The title of the tape is ***Rent-a-Friend***, which does what its name implies. You can rent or buy the tape, and the man on the tape becomes your friend.

Throughout the 45 minute tape, a nice-looking, quiet-speaking actor sits in a chair adorned in a sweater and brown pants.

The actor doesn't "act" in the traditional way; he simply talks to the viewer, as one person would chat with another. An example of this is: "Sam," as he calls himself, moves his face closer to the lens of the camera and says, "Do you mind if I look about your place a little bit?" He "looks," pauses, and continues, "You know, you've got really good taste, if you don't mind me telling you."

This tape is serious. Pauses are built in, for the viewer to reply to the tape. The goal of this tape is obvious: if you're lonely or bored, you can take home this videocassette and have a nice little chat with "Sam" in the privacy of your own home.

In real life, "Sam" is a 32-year-old ex-waiter and bartender named Ben Hollis. According to Hollis, the idea of ***Rent-a-Friend*** really isn't strange. "This is nothing new," he said. "People already use television as an antidote to loneliness, for many people turn on the television set just to hear a friendly voice." Hollis also said that there isn't any need for embarassment about renting or buying ***Rent-a-Friend***. "Loneliness is not a tragedy," he said. "It's just a fact of life. The tape is fun, not somber."

Eat your heart out, ***General Hospital*** .

You know you are lazy when . . .

Jodie Mitchell

You refuse to tie your shoes even though they are made of velcro.

Your brother is being chased by the hilltop chopper and you won't get up to help him 'cause you're too comfortable on the floor watching your soap.

You hang your clothes up inside out.

You're all dressed and discover you forgot to put on your underwear, but you're too lazy to go back and put them on, so you just say "forget it!

The dishes in the dishwasher have cobwebs on them.

The T.V. is playing Poltergeist and you don't turn it off.

The Kool-aid has mounds of sugar in the bottom and you just say to yourself--"Oh well, I'll diet."

You hope you die so you don't have to work anymore.

You sleep on the floor so you don't have to make the bed in the morning.

Your toenails are ripping holes in your shoes.

And, for the ULTIMATELY LAZY PERSON:
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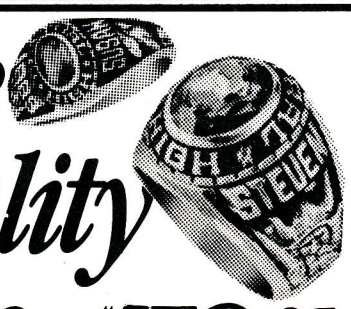

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